

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEACHER TAX CUT ACT -- HON. RON PAUL (Extensions of Remarks - January 31, 2001)

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**HON. RON PAUL** OF TEXAS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, January 31, 2001

- Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Teacher Tax Cut Act. This bill provides every teacher in America with a \$1,000 tax credit, thus raising every teacher's take-home pay without increasing federal spending. Passage of this bill is a major first step toward treating those who have dedicated their lives to educating America's children with the respect they deserve. Compared to other professionals teachers are underappreciated and underpaid. This must change if America is to have the finest education system in the world!

- Quality education is impossible without quality teaching. If we want to ensure that the teaching profession attracts the very best people possible we must make sure that teachers receive the compensation they deserve. For too long now, we have seen partisan battles and displays of heightened rhetoric about who wants to provide the most assistance to education distract us from our important work of removing government-imposed barriers to educational excellence.

- Since America's teachers are underpaid because they are overtaxed, the best way to raise teacher take-home pay is to reduce their taxes. Simply by raising teacher's take-home pay via a \$1,000 tax credit we can accomplish a number of important things. First, we show a true

commitment to education. We also let America's teachers know that the American people and the Congress respect their work. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, by raising teacher take-home pay, the Teacher Tax Cut Act encourages highly-qualified professionals to enter, and remain in, the teaching profession.

- In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I once again ask my colleagues to put aside partisan bickering and unite around the idea of helping educators by supporting the Teacher Tax Cut Act.

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